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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/888,222	06/22/2001	Samuel Yin Lun Pun	P-2177	7524

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James D. Ivey
Law Offices of James D. Ivey
3025 Totterdell Street
Oakland, CA 94611-1742

EXAMINER

ARMSTRONG, ANGELA A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2654

DATE MAILED: 12/17/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/888,222

Applicant(s)

PUN, SAMUEL YIN LUN

Examiner

Angela A. Armstrong

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 June 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-24 and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Nakayama et al (US Patent No. 4,531,119).

Regarding claim 1, Nakayama discloses a method for generating Japanese text in response to signals generated by a user (col. 1, line 63 to col. 2, line 5) comprising; receiving signals generated by the user which specify one or more collections each of which includes one or more syllables (col. 2, lines 51-62); determining that one or more predicted words include any syllable of each of the one or more collections (col. 2, lines 51-62); presenting the one or more predicted words to the user for selection (col. 2, lines 51-62).

Regarding claim 2, Nakayama discloses the one or more collections are each associated with a respective consonant (col. 3, lines 4-10).

Regarding claim 3, Nakayama discloses a vowel one of the one or more collections is associated with a null consonant (col. 3, line 4-10).

Regarding claim 4, Nakayama discloses one or more collections correspond to a fifty sounds table (col. 2, line 51 to col. 3, line 64).

Regarding claims 5-6, Nakayama discloses the signals generated by the user specify each of the one or more collections in response to a corresponding single key press (col. 2, line 51 to col. 3, line 64).

Regarding claims 7-8, Nakayama discloses determining the kanji representation of each of the one or more predicted words and presenting the one or more predicted words comprises presenting the kanji representation of each of the one or more predicted words (col. 2, lines 51-62)

Regarding claim 27, Nakayama discloses implementation on a computer (figure 1).

Regarding claims 9-16 and 17-24, claims 9-16 and 17-24 are similar in scope and content to claims 1-8 rejected above, and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out

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the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 25-26 and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakayama in view of Ho et al (US Patent No. 6,307,541).

Regarding claims 25-26 and 28, Nakayama does not disclose the system for generating Japanese text is implemented via a wireless telephone or text messaging device. Ho discloses a method and system for inputting characters through virtual keyboards from a mobile phone (Figures 2-6). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time of the invention to modify the system of Nakayama for implementation in a wireless phone or text messaging device, as suggested by Ho, for the purpose of providing inputting of Japanese characters at a high speed in a convenient and efficient manner to mobile and wireless users.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Yang et al (US Patent No. 6,562,078) discloses an arrangement and method for inputting non-alphabetic language.

Kurosu et al (US Patent No. 4,543,631) discloses a Japanese text inputting system

Saito et al (US Patent No. 4,777,600) discloses a phonetic data-to-kanji character converter

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Ranieri (US Patent No. 6,281,886) discloses a touch screen keyboard support for character languages.

Ho (US Patent No. 4,484,305) discloses a phonetic multilingual word processor.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Angela A. Armstrong whose telephone number is 703-308-6258. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 7:30-5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richemond Dorvil can be reached on (703) 305-9645. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Angela A. Armstrong
Examiner
Art Unit 2654

AAA
December 12, 2004

Angela A. Armstrong